

GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES -----0------

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BEACH ADVISORY

The Department of Planning and Natural Resources (DPNR) announces that the Beach Water Quality Monitoring Program, which evaluates weekly water quality at popular swimming beaches throughout the Territory by sampling for Enterococci, Bacteria and Turbidity, which is a measure of water clarity, advises the public of the following:

DPNR performed water quality analysis at 19 designated beaches throughout the Territory during the week of January 25 – January 29, 2021. The following beaches meet water quality standards and are considered safe for swimming and fishing:

| St. Thomas | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Lindbergh Bay | Sapphire Beach | Lindquist Beach |
| Bolongo Bay | Vessup Bay | Coki Point |
| Frenchman's Bay | Secret Harbor | Limetree Bay |
| Magen's Bay | Bluebeard's Beach | Water Bay |
| Brewer's Bay | Hull Bay | · |

| Water Island | |
|-----------------|--|
| Honeymoon Beach | |

| St. John | |
|----------------|--|
| Great Cruz Bay | |
| Oppenheimer | |

The following beaches do not meet water quality standards because they exceed the established Enterococci Bacteria threshold and therefore are not considered to be safe for swimming or fishing:

• Cruz Bay and Frank Bay on St. John.

Please note: Samples were not collected at the following beaches, *Therefore*, the water quality at these beaches is unknown:

- All beaches on St. Croix
- Morningstar on St. Thomas
- Johnson Bay on St. John

All persons should be aware that storm water runoff may also contain contaminants or pollutants harmful to human health, and therefore all persons should avoid areas of storm water runoff (i.e. guts, puddles, and drainage basins) or any area that appears discolored or has foul odors. DPNR will continue to monitor the impacted areas and waters.

For additional information regarding water quality call the Division of Environmental Protection at 773-1082 in St. Croix or 514-1960 in St. Thomas.